U. S. Gov't
Master
Specification
No. 502

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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CIRCULAR OF THE BUREAU OF STANDARDS, No 353

[Issued November 3, 1927]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR CARPETS AND RUGS, AXMINSTER

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 502

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on July 11, 1927, for the use of the departments and independent establishments of the Government in the purchase of Axminster carpets and rugs.

[The latest date on which the technical requirements of this specification shall become mandatory for all departments and independent establishments of the Government is October 11, 1927. They may be put into effect, however, at any earlier date after promulgation.]

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	General specifications	1
II.	Grade	1
III.	Material and workmanship	1
IV.	General requirements	2
V.	Detail requirements	2
VI.	Inspection and tests	3
VII.	Packing and marking of shipments	3
VIII.	Notes	3

I. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

There are no general specifications applicable to this specification.

II. GRADE

This specification covers one grade of fabric.

III. MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP

Axminster fabric shall be woven from best quality filling wools with cotton warp and filling of jute. All weaving shall be evenly done in a neat and workmanlike manner.

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IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

See Detail requirements.

V. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. Yarns.—Yarns shall be spun from blended filling wools, thoroughly cleansed of all animal fat and foreign substances. It shall be combed, drawn, and spun until the resulting yarn is supple, elastic, and uniform in diameter and strength.

2. Dyeing.—Pile material shall be evenly and thoroughly dyed with permanent sun-fast dyes of the Alizerine type or equal.

3. Patterns.—Patterns shall be domestic adaptations of the best oriental designs in low-toned and rich colors. It is the intention to secure patterns from manufacturers' standard lines.

4. Dissections.—There are tabulated below the average requirements for the grade desired. These dissections are given as a guide and are not restrictive. It is intended to secure fabrics from manufacturers' standard constructions which most nearly conform thereto. Each bidder shall submit the actual dissection or analysis by weight of the various materials contained in the fabrics offered by him. These shall be expressed in avoirdupois ounces per carpet yard 27 inches wide and 36 inches long. These will be considered confidential, and will only be used by members of awarding agencies. Submitted dissections shall specify the name of the material and its use in the construction, segregating weights for pile, warp, and filling. The correctness of the submitted dissections will be verified from the samples, and the quality and quantity of materials and thoroughness of construction will receive consideration in connection with bid prices.

Ends	Wires	Weight			
		Wool	Cotton	Jute	Total
		Ounces	*Ounces*	*Ounces*	*Ounces*
189	7	20	6	18	44

5. Carpet Samples.—Bidders shall submit samples of each grade of carpet upon which they are bidding. They shall be 9 by 13½ inches and preferably not bound.

6. Rug Samples.—When pattern rugs are called for, bidders shall submit a small size rug, preferably 27 by 54 inches, in addition to small samples as noted in paragraph 5. Bidders shall guarantee that small samples are true samples of the small rugs which they accompany. Rugs will be returned to unsuccessful bidders. The rug submitted by the bidder to whom the contract is awarded will become Government property and will be retained as a quality sample.

VI. INSPECTION AND TESTS

1. Inspection at Mill.—Mill inspection will not be made unless the contract or order so specifies. In connection with awards the Government reserves the right to inspect bidder's stock and facilities to assure itself that he has in stock, or is in a position to supply, a reasonably large assortment of patterns and colors of carpets and rugs of the latest and most desirable patterns, made of first-class material and of high-grade workmanship, and that the illustrations and samples submitted with the bid truly represent the carpets and rugs, and that they conform to the specified requirements.

2. Weight Tests.—Samples will be carefully weighed to ascertain the total weight per carpet yard. Small squares will be accurately cut, dissected, and the constituents carefully weighed as a check against the dissection analyses submitted with bids.

3. Fading Tests.—Samples will be exposed for 48 hours to an ultra-violet light as an accelerated light test.

VII. PACKING AND MARKING OF SHIPMENTS

Shall be in accordance with the best commercial practice unless otherwise specified.

VIII. NOTES

1. Awards.—Awards will be based on evaluated prices determined from actual weighings and dissections of submitted samples and the bid prices.

2. Sample Books.—Purchasing officers should include in advertisements for bids an item covering cost of sample books, indicating the number of samples intended to be selected to form a set and the probable number of sample books to be required.

3. Illustrations.—Purchasing officers should include in advertisements for bids an item covering the cost per sheet for colored illustrations, indicating the probable number of sets to be required.

4. Samples of Carpets to be Furnished by the Contractor.—As soon as practicable after award the contractor should submit a full line of samples, showing patterns and colors, from which the selections will be made. After selections are made the contractor should make up the specified number of sets as follows: The samples should be 9 by 13½ inches, bound around the edges, punched, and grommetted. Each shall have stenciled on its back its reference number or other designating symbol. Each set should be assembled in an extra-heavy loose-leaf binder, with wood base and extra-heavy cloth-covered board cover with four binding standards.

5. Illustrations of Pattern Rugs to be Furnished by the Contractor.—As soon as practicable after the award the contractor

should furnish the specified number of sets of colored illustrations. These illustrations should in each case show at least a quarter of the rug, and care shall be taken to see that colors generally are truthfully duplicated. Each should bear, either on its face or back, the manufacturer's name, brand, pattern, and color numbers or other designating symbols, the contract number, and a list of the sizes in which the rug can be furnished.

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